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May 5, 1999

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
U.S. Patent No. 5,780,454; Issued: July 14, 1998  
For: **Boronic Ester and Acid Compounds**  
Inventors: ADAMS *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1448.0120002/JAG/JMC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Associate Power of Attorney; and
2. Return postcard receipt.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents

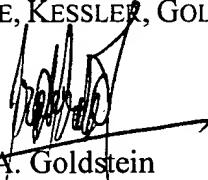
May 5, 1999

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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jorge A. Goldstein', written over a horizontal line.

Jorge A. Goldstein  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 29,021

JAG/JMC/cmg  
Enclosure

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